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Name of Project: Home Again: A Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness in Portland and Multnomah County

Title of Article: *National Alliance to End Homelessness, Community Snapshot and Best Practice-Making Systems Changes that Prevent Homelessness*

Date: written 7/05

Location: Portland and Multnomah County, Oregon, and Oregon's Office of Mental Health & Addiction Services

1. Please describe the goal of the project/program found in the article/report?
 - end homelessness in 10 years
 - creation of 1600 units of permanent housing
2. What were the key points?
 - focus on the most chronically homeless population (but also include families & unaccompanied youth)
 - streamline access to existing services in order to prevent homelessness
 - target resources to programs that offer measurable results
 - Housing First model, which reduces time an individual/family spends in shelter and helps them obtain permanent housing) & redirected funding from shelters to permanent housing
 - supportive housing: medical care, mental health services, other social services, depending on the needs
3. Is this a proposal or an existing project/program? If the project/program was completed, what were the outcomes? If it is a proposal, what are the expected outcomes?
 - Existing project/program
 - Outcomes so far: 350 units of permanent housing committed or under construction, 254 chronically homeless people moved into permanent housing, 108 directly from streets into permanent housing, 64 homeless families into permanent housing, 13 homeless "hard to reach" youth into stable & permanent housing
4. Who was involved and how did they meet the project goals?
 - the city & the county of Portland & Multnomah County, Oregon
 - met project goals by "Housing First" approach, and focusing on 9 key actions:
 - 1)moving people into Housing First
 - 2)ending discharge of people into homelessness from jails & hospitals
 - 3)improving outreach
 - 4)emphasizing permanent solutions
 - 5)increasing housing supply
 - 6)creating new partnerships (I'm presuming with the business community)

- 7)improving rent assistance system
- 8)increasing economic opportunity for the homeless
- 9)implementing new data collection technology

-Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services:

met project goals by: assisting the development or renovation of housing for mentally ill people; grants for housing operators for renovations to correct health, safety or accessibility problems; assistance obtaining & retaining integrated community housing; assistance into more independent and private living situations; assistance in transition to housing from homelessness; assistance in maintaining housing & avoiding homelessness or re-hospitalization

5. How was it funded? How much did it cost?
 - by the city of Portland & Multnomah County
 - Mental Health Services Housing Fund, initiated in 1989
 - government grant from Federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
 - proceeds from a sale of State Hospital property
 - Ecumenical Ministries for recovery homes
 - Oregon Housing and Community Services
 - costs for Portland's project: unclear
 - costs for mental health projects: over \$7.5 million total (all the state's projects)
6. Any pertinent statistics found?
 - between 16,000 & 18,000 of those homeless in one year
 - nearly 3,000 on the street or in shelter, 2355 in transitional housing, on any given night
 - in FY 2003-04, 3376 homeless adults with mental illness & 157 homeless children with mental or emotional disorders enrolled in state-funded mental health services
 - 165 residential programs accommodating a total of 1,284 people disabled by mental illness
 - 422 residential treatment beds for people with serious addiction disorders
 - 2777 adults w/mental illness live independently
 - 2500 units of supportive housing for people in recovery
7. Any unique approaches to ending homelessness identified?
 - “Housing First” approach, though it seems similar to Long Beach’s approach
 - support with medical care, mental health services, other social service needs after individuals are in permanent housing
 - housing (a group home and 20-unit apartment) for people with mental illness integrated into new community development
8. Any questions raised by this plan?

If between 16000-18000 people are homeless in Portland over the course of a year there, why are only 1600 housing units of permanent housing being created?